

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: SPC DISCUSSION NOVEMBER 21 ON PARA 29 MEASURES

REF: STATE 251448

1. SPC ON NOVEMBER 21 TOOK FIRST LOOK AT U.S. DRAFT GUIDANCE TO THE AHG ON PARA 29 MEASURES FOR USE AT THE DECEMBER 5 PLENARY.

2. UK REP (BAILES) SAID UK WELCOMED THE FACT THAT THE U.S. TEXT APPLIED ONLY TO U.S. AND SOVIET GROUND FORCES, THE UK THEREFORE WISHED

TO SUGGEST THAT TO MAKE THIS CLEARER, "FIRST PHASE" BE INSERTED PRIOR TO "REDUCTION AGREEMENT" IN THE FIRST PARA OF U.S. TEXT (REFTEL, PARA 3). SIMILARLY THE UK WOULD SUGGEST ADDING AT THE END OF PARA 3 IN THE U.S. TEXT, AFTER "MILITARY EXERCISES" THE FOLLOWING: "BY THE U.S. AND SOVIET UNION RESPECTIVELY."

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THE UK WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING HOW THE U.S. ARRIVED AT THE FIGURE OF 5,000 AS THE TEMPORARY EXCESS FOR NORMAL REPLACEMENT, TRAINING, TDY AND LEAVE. U.S. REP (MOORE) SAID HE ASSUMED THE CHANGES PROPOSED BY THE UK WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO HIS AUTHORI-

TIES. HE SAID HE WOULD QUERY WASHINGTON ABOUT THE 5,000 FIGURE.

3. CANADIAN REP (BECKETT) SAID THAT SINCE PARA 29 MEASURES HAVE BEEN DORMANT SINCE SPRING, IT WOULD BE RUSHING THINGS TO AGREE TO GUIDANCE TO THE AHG BY DECEMBER 5. HIS AUTHORITIES SAW MILITARY ASPECTS OF THE U.S. TEXT FOR THE ALLIANCE, IN PARTICULAR THE PRECEDENT WHICH THIS WILL SET FOR OTHER STATIONED FORCES, AND RELEVANCE OF APPLYING THE SMAE NUMBERS OF SOVIET RESIDUALS LEVELS AND EXCEPTIONS. THEREFORE THE MBFR WORKING GROUP SHOULD BE ASKED TO LOOK AT THE U.S. TEXT FROM THE MILITARY TECHNICAL STANDPOINT IN CONJUNCTION WITH SPC WORK ON GUIDANCE TO THE AHG. U.S. REP POINTED OUT, PER PARA 7 REFTTEL, THAT IF THESE NUMBERS DID NOT MEET SOVIET MILITARY REQUIREMENTS, THIS WOULD GIVE THE SOVIETS AN INCENTIVE TO ENTER INTO A DISCUSSION OF STABILIZING MEASURES. MC REP (GROUP CAPTAIN SMITH) SAID WG COULD TAKE A LOOK AT THE U.S. TEXT AT ITS MEETING ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, AND HE COULD THEN REPORT A WG VIEW OR AT LEAST A STAFF VIEW TO THE SPC ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28. HE NOTED THAT WG HAD PREVIOUSLY HELD THAT THE NUMBERS FOR U.S. RESIDUAL LEVELS AND EXCEPTIONS SHOULD BE DETERMINED ONLY BY THE U.S.

4. NETHERLANDS REP (SIZOO) OBSERVED THAT THE SOVIETS WILL PROBABLY SAY THAT IF THE ALLIES WANT THE SAME NUMBERS OF BOTH SIDES FOR RESIDUAL LEVELS AND EXCEPTIONS THEN THE ALLIES SHOULD WANT THE SAME NUMBERS ON BOTH SIDES FOR REDUCTIONS.

5. FRG REP (HOYNCK) SAID FRG BY AND LARGE AGREES WITH THE U.S. TEXT. HOWEVER, FRG WOULD PREFER NOT TO SPEAK OF RESIDUAL LEVELS IN THE PLURAL, BUT RATHER RESIDUAL LEVEL. (FRG REP HAD EXPLAINED PRIVATELY THAT FRG IS THINKING AHEAD TO THE KIND OF GUIDANCE WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED FOR RESIDUAL LEVELS AND EXCEPTIONS IN PHASE II AGREEMENT, AND USE OF THE WORD LEVEL IN THE SINGULAR WILL AVOID ANY IMPRESSION OF SEPARATE LEVELS FOR EACH ALLIED COUNTRY, I.E. NATIONAL SUB-CEILINGS.) HIS AUTHORITIES CONSIDERED OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT THE TEXT APPLY ONLY TO U.S. AND SOVIET GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL. HIS AUTHORITIES CAN GO ALONG WITH THE FIGURES IN THE U.S. TEXT,
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ALTHOUGH HE COULD SEE THE NEED FOR THE MBFR WG TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE IN TIME FOR MBFR WG MEETING ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26 WASHINGTON COMMENT ON HOW IT DETERMINED THE NUMBERS, AND CONFIRMATION THAT THEY APPLY TO U.S. POST-REDUCTION NEEDS (WHICH IS WHAT WE HAVE ASSURED THE ALLIES). WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE BY WG MEETING ANY FURTHER COMMENT WASHINGTON WISHES TO MAKE ON THE SETTING OF THE SAME NUMBERS FOR BOTH THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION DESPITE THE LARGER SOVIET FORCE IN THE AREA. WE ASSUME THAT WE CAN ACCEPT AT THE SPC MEETING ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28 THE UK AMENDMENTS TO THE U.S. TEXT DESCRIBED ABOVE, AS WELL AS

REFERENCE TO RESIDUAL LEVEL IN THE SINGULAR AS REQUESTED
BY FRG.
MCAULIFFE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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